

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2883 without my signature.

The residents within the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) are burdened with significant water quality challenges due to historic pollution from specific sites. These challenges may justify the District obtaining extraordinary powers for mitigation and cost recovery. However, the bill lacks the necessary parameters to ensure adequate due process for all.

This bill grants the district unprecedented responsibilities that more properly should be under the oversight of a Regional Water Quality Board. The District would have no obligation to follow applicable state water quality policies or plans, thereby leaving it to the District to determine water quality standards and remediation actions, rather than using scientifically established statewide standards.

For these reasons I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger